

NAVAL GUNS TURNED ON THE BOERS

Hostilities Renewed the Day Following Christmas.

ENGLISH USE LYDDITE

Lady Smith Has a Busy Morning Shelling the Boer Position on the Umbulwana Mountain—Twenty Boers Killed and Many Wounded During the Attack on the Sequani Laager—Mafeking Relief Force. The Story of the Escape of Winston Spencer Churchill.

London, Dec. 28.—4.30 a. m.—Winston Churchill's new arrival at Chieveley Camp is perhaps responsible for some over-coloring of the gravity of the situation, but all today's news conveys the impression that Buller may be intending another attack upon the Boer position.

Certainly, the Boers are not inactive. At both Modder River and the Tugela they are said to be strengthening their forces and extending defense works which, in both cases are seemingly impregnable.

Despatches from Chieveley indicate that General Buller's forces will re-mobilize at Prere before attempting another advance. Doubtless he would be glad to retrieve the Colenso reverse, before the arrival of Lord Roberts, yet he is hardly likely to attempt another frontal attack. It is more likely that he is preparing to strike should the Boers make any offensive movement.

Chieveley Camp, Natal, Monday, Dec. 25.—Although the two armies were in sight of each other, with the temperature 62 degrees in the shade, the British today enjoyed characteristic Christmas cheer.

Captains Greenfield and Kirkwood, of the South African Light Horse, left here yesterday to inspect the patrols along the eastern hills. Their horses returned at night alone.

Colonel Donald, of the Royal Fusiliers, has had his collar bone broken by being thrown from his horse, while on outpost duty.

Chieveley Camp, Natal, Tuesday, Dec. 26.—The naval guns began shelling the Boer position at 5 o'clock this morning, using lyddite. The shelling continued about two hours.

Ever since the engagement at Colenso the enemy have been energetically improving their entrenchments. They can be seen galloping freely from hill tops.

Lady Smith also had a busy morning today, shelling the Boer position on Umbulwana mountain. The bursting shells were plainly visible at Chieveley.

London, Dec. 27.—The Rhodesian Mafeking relief force, according to a despatch from Mochudi, Bechuana-land, dated Saturday, Dec. 16, was progressing slowly, owing to the necessity of repairing the bridges, averaging one per mile.

An intercepted Boer mail bag, it is added, shows that twenty Boers were killed and many wounded during the British attack on the Sequani laager.

Dutch Colonists Hostile.

London, Dec. 28.—A special correspondent to the Daily Chronicle, telegraphing from Sterksfontein, Cape Colony, Thursday, December 21, says: "Strong measures are necessary to check the hostile feeling among the Dutch colonists, whose sedition is shown in the removal of railway bolts, the obstruction of bridges and culverts, attacks upon solitary horsemen.

"Disaffection is bound to increase unless immediate reinforcements are forthcoming. The loyal Dutch and British settlers were becoming alarmingly impatient."

London, Dec. 28.—The Daily Chronicle publishes the following from Cape Town: "Herr Schlesinger, an agent of the New York Equitable Assurance society, who has arrived here from Pretoria, says the Boers possess immense stores of food imported by speculative capitalists under a belief that mining would be allowed during the war.

"He says also that there were thousands of spectators at the Pretoria railway station when the British who were captured at Nicholson's Nek were taken to the Boer commandant to bare their heads and they did so. The British, astounded, returned the salute."

CHURCHILL'S ESCAPE.

Thrilling Experience of an English Captive in Making a Dash for Liberty.

London, Dec. 27.—Winston Spencer Churchill has captivated an account of his escape from captivity with the Boers after having been taken prisoner in the reconnaissance of an armored train at Estcourt. The dispatch, which is published today in the Morning Post, is dated Lorenzo Marquez, Dec. 21. It says:

On the afternoon of December 12 the Transvaal's secretary of war informed me that there was little chance of my re-

lease. I therefore resolved to escape, and the same night I left the State School's prison in Pretoria by climbing the wall when the sentries' backs were turned momentarily. I walked through the streets of the town without disguise, meeting many burghers, but was not challenged in the crowd. I got through the pickets of the Transvaal's army, and the Wageningen Bay railroad. I walked along it, evading the watches at the bridges and culverts, and waited for a train beyond the first station. The 11.10 o'clock goods train from Pretoria had arrived before I reached the place, and was moving at full speed. I boarded it with great difficulty and hid under coal sacks.

I jumped from the train before dawn, and was sheltered during the day in a small wood, in company with a huge vulture, who displayed a lively interest in me. I walked on at dusk. There was no more trains that night. The danger of meeting the guards of the line continued, but I was obliged to follow it, as I had no compass or map. I had to make wide detours to avoid bridges, stations and huts, and so my progress was very slow. Chocolate is not a satisfying food. The meanlyly escapes had been discovered, with God's help. For five days my food supply was very precarious. I was lying up by daylight and walking by night.

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ATTORNEY MONNETT TALKS ON TRUSTS

'THE ABDICATION OF SOVEREIGNTY' HIS THEME.

Before the Twentieth Century Club, of Boston, the Well-Known Attorney General of Ohio Gives an Interesting Address—He Characterizes the Enormous Holdings of the Standard Oil Company and Other Large Industries as the Fruits of the Illegal Abuse of Governmental Functions.

Boston, Dec. 27.—Frank S. Monnett, attorney general of Ohio, well known for his opposition to trusts, made an interesting address tonight before the Twentieth Century club in the hall of Boston university law school on "The Abdication of Sovereignty."

The speaker read his speech from manuscript. He was accorded general applause as he concluded. He said in part:

"I want to demonstrate to you that the most potent weapon of oppression is that club that we as sovereign people have ever to certain favored interests, and they in turn, having thus seized the mace of governmental authority, pervert it to their own use and for their own self aggrandizement, in defiance of the rights of the great majority of individuals or citizens composing such sovereignty."

"I maintain that if by a great aggregation of capital a pipe line company may ramify all the oil fields with its system and connect with the manufacturing centers which in turn so control as to prevent all competition, and is enabled to destroy all competitors, then the state and federal government for the good of the common man and the common welfare, has the power and right, and it is its duty to interfere."

"So likewise, when one giant corporation establishes a system of tank cars and erects tank stations, and combines with the railroad companies as to get an unfair rate by virtue of owning its own tank cars; and tank stations, then the state has a right under its police regulations to protect the common man and the man of smaller means from such abuse and usurpation of the transportation department. The \$600,000,000 owned by a little coterie of Standard Oil magnates, the \$1,000,000,000 controlled in the iron, coal, copper and other industries by a limited number of capitalists, represent the fruits of the illegal abuse of the governmental functions."

WAGES TO BE ADVANCED.

Good News for the Miners at George's Creek.

Baltimore, Dec. 27.—The George's Creek mine operators sent a letter today to the representatives of the miners at Cumberland, stating that they would be prepared on April 1 to grant an increase in wages. The miners of the George's Creek, Md., and Meyersdale, Pa., regions recently held a convention at Loanconing and organized a district union. The convention decided that the operators should be asked to increase the wage scale ten cents, making it 55 cents per ton and a conference between operators and miners was to have been held in Cumberland tomorrow. The operators decided, however, that a conference was hardly necessary, and the letter was sent as stated. They say they cannot see their way clear to increasing the scale before the date mentioned as their contracts were all made on the present basis of 45 cents.

It is expected that the Meyersdale operators will also increase the scale.

FAVORING FREIGHT SHIPPERS.

Recent Decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The interstate commerce commission decided today to comply with the request of the shippers of freight to transmit to the attorney general of the United States a transcript of the evidence taken before the commission last week on the increase in the classification of freight by the official classification commission. The shippers in their petition urged that the testimony taken showed a violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Their desire is that the attorney general shall take action by injunction or otherwise to restrain the railroad from putting the classification into effect on Jan. 1.

HAY WILL BE ARRESTED.

Will Answer Charge of Conspiracy in the Shaw Case.

Harrisburg, Dec. 27.—Governor Stone issued a warrant today in requisition of Governor Voorhees, of New Jersey, for the extradition of William H. Hay, a Philadelphia Times reporter.

Hay is wanted at Camden to answer a charge of conspiracy in connection with an alleged confession of Eli Shaw, who was acquitted recently of the murder of his mother and grandmother.

Kentucky Election Commissioners.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 27.—Governor Taylor today appointed W. H. Mackey, attorney for Hamilton, W. J. Cochran, Republican, state election commissioners. As Clerk Shackelford will swear in the Democratic commissioners appointed by Commissioner Foynt, it is probable Taylor's appointees will institute a mandamus proceeding to get possession of the office.

Deadly Duel at Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Two officers, named Schlabitz and Kissig, belonging to the first and second regiments, respectively, of the Prussian army, fought a duel yesterday on the Swiss frontier under previously agreed murderous conditions. Schlabitz was killed. The cause of the duel was trifling.

Mr. Ledyard's Contribution.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Among the contributions of the Lawton fund received by Adjutant General Corbin today was one of \$50 from Mr. Lewis Cass Ledyard, of New York, which contribution he said was made "in memory of my nephew, Lieutenant A. C. Ledyard, killed in action in Negroes, December 8, 1865."

Pennsylvania Pensions.

Washington, Dec. 27.—E. E. Harding, was today appointed postmaster at Kasabrook, Wyoming county.

BLISS AN IDEAL CANDIDATE.

Opinion of Secretary Wilson on Vice President Timber.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson stopped in this city a few hours today while on his way to Doylestown, Pa., where he inspected the National farm school. The secretary was entertained at dinner by a number of prominent citizens. In an interview on the presidential campaign of next year, Mr. Wilson said: "The administration has no candidate for vice president. It wishes the candidates to be the complete choice of the people."

"Do you think that either Governor Roosevelt, or ex-Secretary of the Interior, will be candidates for nomination?"

"I do not think that Governor Roosevelt wishes the nomination. Mr. Bliss, I consider, an ideal candidate for the vice presidency, and especially as it seems conceded that the next vice president is to come from the east."

NO STRIKE AT ALTOONA.

Conservative Miners Object to Agitation Looking to Betrayal of Faith with the Operators.

Altoona, Dec. 27.—In the bituminous coal fields of northern Cambria and Clearfield counties today several mass meetings of miners were held, the object of which was to create sentiment in favor of higher wages. It was expected that mass meetings would be held all over this district, but such was not the case. The reason for this was that the leaders of the United Mine Workers and the conservative element of the miners were opposed to them, because the scale of prices which every operator of any note is now paying was made by the miners and holds good until April 1 next. The conservatives argued that they would be betraying the operators if they demanded an increase at this time.

The meetings of Barnesboro, Hastings, and smaller places, were well attended, but orderly and quiet. Addresses were made by the tone of the remarks was conservative and cautioned against strikes. Many of the meetings were held tonight and delegates elected to the Indianapolis convention next month. The convention is to be held at the Hotel Belmont, Altoona, and will settle the wage scale and other differences. None of the Altoona operators have received an invitation to attend.

Where the conservative miners were in a majority there was no mass meeting. At Blair county, where most of the mines of the Altoona operators are located. The leading Altoona operator said tonight that he did not believe his miners would strike because they were being paid their own scale and the best of feeling existed between the operators and men. The same is said of all the other Altoona operators.

Thomas Barnes, the big operator at Barnesboro, told to the Associated Press correspondent over the telephone tonight that he did not fear a strike among his men in the near future, if at all. One thing is patent, there will be no general strike at the beginning of the new year, and the indications are that there will be no disturbance after the Indianapolis convention.

NEW MASONIC YEAR.

Officers of the Grand Lodge Celebrate A. L. 5899.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—Today marked the beginning of the new Masonic year—A. L. 5899—and the officers of the grand lodge, Free and Accepted Masons jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, elected at the quarterly communication held at the Masonic temple in this city.

The officers installed were: George E. Wagner, of Philadelphia, grand master; Edgar W. Tennis, of Harrisburg, deputy grand master; James W. Brown, of Pittsburgh, senior grand warden; George W. Kendrick, Jr., of Philadelphia, junior grand warden; Thomas R. Patton, of Philadelphia, grand secretary; William A. Sinn, Philadelphia, grand treasurer.

At the close of the installation ceremonies Grand Master Wagner announced the committees and other appointments for the ensuing year.

WANT THE HORSESHOE BEND.

Altoona and the Pennsylvania Railroad Apply for Unsettled Lands.

Harrisburg, Dec. 27.—The Pennsylvania Railroad company and the city of Altoona have joined in an application to the department of internal affairs for a tract of twenty acres of unsettled land on the Allegheny mountains. This tract includes the large reservoir which supplies Altoona with water and the picturesque Horseshoe bend.

The official surveyor of Blair county recently discovered that the land was conveyed to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

Republicans Will Meet at Harrisburg on April 25.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—It is probable that the Republican state convention will be held at Harrisburg on Wednesday, April 25. Chairman Reeder, of the state committee, suggesting that date, and it is believed no objection will be made.

At this convention candidates will be nominated for auditor general and two congressmen at large. Eight delegates at large to the Republican national convention will also be named, as well as thirty-two presidential electors, one for each of the congressmen and one for each of the United States senators.

STATE MUSIC TEACHERS.

They Will Meet at Philadelphia Next Year.

Allentown, Dec. 27.—The tenth annual convention of the Pennsylvania State Music Teachers' association was held here today. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. Hugo A. Clarke, secretary and treasurer, Edmund Wolfstetter; executive committee, Thomas A. Recket, Gilbert R. Combs, Enoch W. Pearson; auditing committee, Richard Zeckver, William Wolfstetter. Vivian Knack, all of Philadelphia, it was decided to meet in Philadelphia next year.

Casualty List.

Washington, Dec. 27.—General Otis at Manila sent to the war department today the following list of killed and previously reported: Killed, in action, engagement near Banna, December 11, Third cavalry, Harry Sweger and Charles W. Freese; action against Romblon, Pinar, December 18, Eighteenth infantry, Charles J. Felly.

RECRUITING STATIONS FOR THE BOER ARMY

AN OFFICE IN NEW YORK IN CHARGE OF AGENTS.

Gustav Simon, a Boer, Recently Arrived, Has Charge of the Enlistments—Some Two Hundred and Fifty Left New York a Week Ago. British Consul Besieged with Applications From Men Who Wish to Join Their Army.

New York, Dec. 27.—The work of enlisting men in this city to take the Boer side in the war is in charge of a number of agents who operate in a saloon near police headquarters.

The leader in the movement is Gustav Simon, a Boer, recently arrived from the Transvaal. Associated with him is a young German, Henry Scharff, who has lived many years among the Boers, and who reached New York a week ago from Pretoria. Simon owned in Johannesburg several hotels and saloons; there were closed up when the war began and, being incapable of active service in the field, he came here in the interest of his country. Scharff, his companion in this work, was among the first to come out from the Yukon country with news of the Klondike gold fields and he has mining interests there and in the Transvaal. Since his return to the Transvaal from Alaska he has been in the confidence of the Boer leaders and he has been sent here on this special mission.

A number of people, chiefly young men, have gone to the Transvaal. Some 200 left a week ago and sixty went just before Christmas.

Ever since the outbreak of the Transvaal war the British consulate in this city has received letters from persons eager to enlist in the British army.

"I don't think it is any exaggeration to say that I have received 5,000 letters from persons who want to enlist," said the British vice consul today, "and besides these a great many apply to us in person for help or advice in the matter. We are prevented by United States statutes from enlisting them here, so we have to send them away. The only way they get into the army is to go to England and enlist on their own responsibility. How many of them do this we have no way of knowing. I think, however, that a great many of them do enlist."

"It is surprising to notice the various sorts and conditions of men who seek enlistment with us. There is scarcely a nationality that is not represented. Englishmen, of course, predominate, but Americans are second in number. It is an interesting circumstance that several United States soldiers in uniform have come here and asked to be enlisted."

Boerites in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—There is a general movement among the Irish citizens here to aid the Boers in their war with England. A call was today sent out for a special assessment on every member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of which there are 25,000 in this city. A return of \$25,000 is expected, which will help to swell the general fund of \$1,000,000 which the Irish organizations throughout the country seek to raise.

P. J. McManus, a prominent Irishman, said today that the preparations are being made for a public meeting at the Academy of Music. Final arrangements will be completed at a meeting of the county board of Ancient Order of Hibernians next Friday.

In speaking about the alleged Fenian plot to raid Canada, Mr. McManus said: "The proposed Fenian raid, if there is any such thing contemplated, is against the rules of international law. The loyalty of the Irish in this country leads them to regard the announcement as merely a bluff to keep the Canadians at home."

It is expected, he says, that the meeting at the Academy of Music will result in a \$50,000 fund to fit out a hospital relief ship.

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Pennsylvania Postmasters.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: SNOW.

1 General—Renewed Activity in the South African War. Boer Recruiting Station in New York. Filipino Insurgents Reported. Frank Monnett on Trusts.

2 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial.

3 Local—Banquet of the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association. Court Proceedings.

4 Editorial.

5 Local—Three December Brides. Organized Effort to Rid the City of Prevailing Epidemic.

6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.

7 Round About the County.

8 Local—Live Industrial News.

MOLINEUX TRIAL.

An Objection Is Made to the "Shadowing" Process—The Jurors Are Exasperated.

New York, Dec. 27.—Two things of interest, if not of importance, were developed at the trial of Roland B. Molineux today. The first incident was the protest made to Recorder Goff against the policy of "shadowing" adopted by the district attorney. The jurors complained that a detective had been assigned to each member and that the "shadows" had allowed their zeal to outrun their discretion. Even their domestic and business conversations of the jurors while away from court had been stealthily listened to by the ambitious detectives. This the jurors said was a vexation that was rapidly becoming intolerable. It is said that Recorder Goff told the jurors that he could do nothing for them.

Assistant District Attorney McIntyre, in explaining the action of the district attorney's office, said that fifteen detectives had been selected to watch the members of the jury. He said that it was the custom to employ men to "shadow" jurors during an important murder case, and that the precautionary action thus taken was in the interest of justice and the public good. It is understood, however, that orders were issued to the "shadows" to give the jurors as little trouble as possible in the future.

The other incident of interest occurred during the cross-examination of handwriting expert, Ames, of San Francisco, who is the author of a book on "Biblical Mythology." Mr. Ames inquired whether the expert had ever written this sentence: "Again ignorance and fear tremble and are prostrate before self-seeking, cunning and fraud, according to the firm of Moses, Jehovah & Co. (unlimited) re-established; articles of cooperation perpetual; powers omnipotent and celestial and Moses its general financier."

At the point Assistant District Attorney Osborne objected emphatically to the introduction of these writings of Expert Ames for the purpose of prejudicing the jury.

After a lively battle of words for a few moments the recorder called Mr. Ames to order and ruled that the law allowed no religious testimony of a witness; and that an affirmation does not necessarily embrace a declaration of faith in God.

During recess Clerk of the Court Brophy explained that Expert Ames had merely affirmed when taking the stand that he had not used the words "so help me God."

The day was largely devoted to technical examination of Handwriting Experts Ames and Tyrrell. Nothing new or important was developed. The trial which is now in its forty-fourth day, has broken the record for murder trials in New York county by one day, with the prosecution apparently not having fully finished its side of the case. It is understood that the state will introduce very little, if any, additional expert handwriting evidence, and that expert medical witnesses will soon be called to the stand for the purpose of proving the body of the crime and showing that Mrs. Adams really died as a result of the administration of the contents of the poison package.

FAILURES IN BOSTON.

Liabilities to Amount to Nearly \$17,000,000 in Two Weeks.

Boston, Dec. 27.—The announcement on the Boston stock exchange a few minutes after the opening today of the embarrassment of E. C. Hodges & Co., bankers and brokers, was not altogether unexpected by some of the larger financial interests.

The suspension of this well known house, it is estimated, will carry the total of liabilities of concerns here which have failed within the past two weeks close to \$17,000,000.

FAKE YARN EXPLODED.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 27.—A prominent member of the Hibernians of Ottawa telegraphed President James Noonan, of Division 26, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Worcester, Mass., asking if it were correct that he and the members of the order had voted for an invasion of Canada. A reply has been received denying that anything of the kind has taken place. Mr. Noonan added that the society was purely fraternal in purpose.

Plans to Continue Moody's Work.

East Northfield, Mass., Dec. 27.—An appeal to the world to provide for the continuation of the work begun and for twenty years carried on by Dwight L. Moody was issued today by the trustees of the Northfield community. The work will be the only act by the trustees until their meeting a month hence.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 27.—John I. Hartman, president of the Lancaster Trust company, and until recently a member of the wholesale grocery firm of Miller & Hartman, died today after a long illness from Bright's disease.